

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JIDDA 02771 151038Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----151039Z 088229 /17
O 150950Z
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7986

S E C R E T JIDDA 2771

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, US, SA, XF
SUBJECT: DISCUSSION WITH PRINCE FAHD ON PROSPECTS
FOR GENEVA CONFERENCE ON MIDDLE EAST.

REF: A) STATE 68375 B) STATE 78042

1. IT WAS NOT MY INTENTION TO RAISE THIS SUBJECT DURING
CONVERSATION WITH PRINCE FAHD ON OTHER MATTERS (SEE SEPTTEL A)
BUT HE PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY TO PROBE SAUDI VIEW OF POSSI-
BILITY OF MOVING PLO TOWARD MORE COOPERATIVE POSTURE WITH
REGARD TO THEIR REPRESENTATION AT GENEVA CONFERENCE, AS
MENTIONED DEPTTEL A. PRINCE ABDULLAH AND PRINCE SAUD ALSO
PRESENT.

2. EXCHANGE FOLLOWED MY MENTION OF VIEWS OF
PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY CONCERNING CONSTRUCTIVE SAUDI
ARABIAN CONTRIBUTION TO ISSUES TO WHICH USG ATTACHES MAJOR
IMPORTANCE, PARTICULARLY EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A JUST AND
LASTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. REFTTEL B) DURING
HIS EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION FOR MESSAGE, FAHD EMPHA-
SIZED NEED FOR U.S. PRESSURE ON ISRAEL TO AGREE THAT PLO
MUST ATTEND CONFERENCE. HE ALSO DECLARED
THAT SUCCESS OR FAILURE IN CONVOKING CONFERENCE DEPENDED
ON U.S. WILLINGNESS TO MAKE ISRAEL BEHAVE.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 JIDDA 02771 151038Z

IF U.S. UNABLE TO DO THIS, HE CONTINUED, CONFERENCE WOULD FAIL
AND PALESTINIAN EXTREMISTS WOULD BE ABLE TO AGITATE ISSUE
FOR BENEFIT OF "OUTSIDE INFLUENCES". I THOUGHT IT BEST TO
REMIND HIM GENTLY OF ARAB RESPONSIBILITY IN THE MATTER.
I SAID HIS STATEMENT WAS IMPRESSIVE, BUT ASKED IF
I MIGHT GO INTO ANOTHER ASPECT WHICH IN-

VOLVED BRINGING THE PLO INTO A MORE FLEXIBLE POSTURE. THE UNITED STATES HAS INFLUENCE, AS HE HAD NOTED, AND IS USING IT IN THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY POSSIBLE SO THAT A CONFERENCE CAN BEGIN THIS YEAR. OUR INFLUENCE HAS ITS LIMITS, HOWEVER, AND IT IS PROPER TO ASK WHO IS MAKING A SIMILAR EFFORT ON THE ARAB SIDE. WE BELIEVE THE ARABS SHOULD FIND A SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF PLO REPRESENTATION. WE BELIEVE SAUDI ARABIA HAS MORE GENERAL INFLUENCE AMONG ARABS, INCLUDING THE PALESTINIANS AND PLO THAN ANY OTHER SINGLE STATE. FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS MANY ARAB STATES HAVE PROBLEMS WITH EACH OTHER, BUT THAT DOES NOT APPLY TO HIS LEADERSHIP NOR TO HIS COUNTRY. WE SEE THE SAUDIS IN A UNIQUE POSITION TO MOVE OTHER ARABS, EXPECIALLY THE PLO, IN THIS MATTER; AND ASSUMING WE WILL CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN OUR OWN EFFORT, THEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS, HIS AND OURS, MIGHT ACHIEVE A CONFERENCE THAT WILL EVENTUALLY STABILIZE THIS REGION AND BRING PEACE TO IT.

3. HE REVERTED TO THE THEME THAT THE PROBLEM LIES IN BRINGING THE ISRAELIS AROUND TO ACCEPTING A PLO PRESENCE AT THE CONFERENCE. I REMARKED THAT IF BOTH ISRAELIS AND PLO WOULD DECLARE THAT THEY ARE GOING TO GENEVA TO NEGOTIATE PEACE WITH ALL INTERESTED PARTIES WE MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING TO WORK WITH. I SAID IT SEEMED UNJUST TO ASK ONE PARTY TO DO WHAT THE OTHER WILL NOT. THEY BOTH REPRESENT REALITY, THEY BOTH EXIST.

I EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT HE WILL ENCOUNTER SIMILAR THOUGHTS IN THE UNITED STATES.

WITH BOTH ABDULLAH AND SAUD LISTENING ATTENTIVELY, FAHD REPLIED THAT IT IS OUR FRIENDSHIP WHICH

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 JIDDA 02771 151038Z

ENABLES US TO TELL EACH OTHER THE TRUTH. HE SAID THE THOUGHTS I HAD EXPRESSED WERE "EXCELLENT". WE COULD FEEL SURE THAT SAUDI ARABIA WOULD DO WHAT IT COULD. THE EGYPTIANS, SYRIANS AND OTHERS WOULD HELP, HE ADDED. HE SEEMED VERY INTERESTED AND SERIOUS. I MADE ADDITIONAL REMARK TO EFFECT THAT TIME IS PASSING SWIFTLY. HE NODDED, WE EXCHANGED AMENITIES AND I TOOK MY LEAVE OF THEM, AFTER ARRANGING TO SEE PRINCE SAUD ON SATURDAY MORNING.

PORTER

SECRET

NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, PEACE TALKS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977JIDDA02771
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D770131-0539
Format: TEL
From: JIDDA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197704101/aaaafsfb.tel
Line Count: 111
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: 54f1b39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 STATE 68375, 77 STATE 78042
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2664082
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 970829
Subject: DISCUSSION WITH PRINCE FAHD ON PROSPECTS FOR GENEVA CONFERENCE ON MIDDLE EAST.
TAGS: PDEV, SA, US, XF, PDEV, PFOR, (FAHD, PRINCE), (PORTER, WILLIAM J)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/54f1b39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009